

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 NEA-14 ACDA-19 AEC-11 CU-05 OIC-04

NIC-01 EB-11 OMB-01 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3895

INFO: RUFHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 6255

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 11921

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, XG,UK

SUBJECT: CSCE: UK REPORT ON EC-NINE POLITICAL DIRECTORS

REF: BONN 14436

1. ON SEPT. 12 WE SPOKE WITH CRISPIN TICKELL OF FCO ON
CSCE ASPECTS OF PARIS MEETING OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF
EC-9. HIS REPORT WAS SIMILAR TO THAT IN REFTEL. HE FELT
THAT " THE DIFFERENCES ARE NOT ALL THAT GREAT BETWEEN THE
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U. S. AND THE NINE" ON CSCE, BUT HE DID ADMIT THAT THERE

ARE TWO SERIOUS PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS:

(A) THE NINE WANT TO READ THROUGH ALL OF THE HELSINKI RECOMMENDATIONS WITH IN THE WESTERN GROUP BEFORE BARGAINING WITH THE SOVIETS. THE QUESTION HERE IS ONE OF TIMING WITH THE U. S. SEEMING TO FAVOR BEGINNING THE BARGAINING PROCESS BEFORE COMPLETING INTRA-WESTERN GROUP CONSIDERATION TO EVERYONE'S SATISFACTION. (EMBASSY COMMENT. THE "FIRST READING" OF HELSINKI RECOMMENDATIONS HAS BEEN A CONSISTENT THEME IN BRITISH CONVERSATIONS ON CSCE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. END COMMENT.)

(B) THE NINE DO NOT THINK THAT A PAPER OF ANY TYPE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE RUSSIANS AT THIS TIME. RATHER, WE SHOULD WORK OUT OUR POSITIONS WITHOUT LAYING DOWN A PAPER THAT WOULD INEVITABLY BECOME THE MAXIMUM WE COULD HOPE FOR IN A FINAL AGREED DOCUMENT.

2. TICKELL SAID THAT THE UK POSITION AGAINST GIVING A PAPER TO THE USSR IN THE NEAR FUTURE "IS A BIT MORE ADAMANT" THAN THE POSITION OF THE NINE AS A GROUP. HE CONFESSED THAT HE IS ONE OF THE HARD-LINERS IN HMG ON THIS POINT.

3. THROUGHOUT THE CONVERSATION TICKELL EMPHASIZED THAT THE NINE ARE WORKING SERIOUSLY TO NARROW THEIR DIFFERANCES WITH THE U.S. ON THE WHLE RANGE OF CSCE ISSUES. BUT THE STRONG FEELING WITHIN THE GROUP OF POLITICAL DIRECTORS CONTINUES TO BE THAT THE WEST IS IN A STRONG POSITION IN GENEVA; WE SHOULD LET THE RUSSIANS COME TO US WITH CONCESSIONS RATHER THAN TO GO OUT OF OUR WAY TO OFFER COMPROMISES TO THEM.

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